

That is the point. Therefore, every encouragement should be given to aided schools. You may start Sirkar schools. We have no objection. In Kodakara, a poor and backward area, the Director was pleased to give permission to start a school. That school was running for the past three years. I request that allowances may be given to all the teachers working there.

CUT MOTION No. 62

Aid to Primary classes when conditions of recognition are satisfied

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): The motion that stands in my name reads thus.—“To reduce the allotment of Rs. 74,019 for Direction and Inspection by Re. 1. (To urge the Government to aid Primary Classes or divisions newly opened as soon as the conditions of recognition are satisfied).”

Deputy President : That is on a different issue.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): Of course, it is more comprehensive than Mr. Moothedan's. I think it was so stated by Mr. Moothedan.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon (Director of Public Instruction): Not only that, it involves principle. In the other, there is no question of principle. It will be impossible.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): If the House is magnanimous enough to grant the prayer contained in cut motion 24, Mr. Moothedan's motion is necessarily satisfied and he will not be moving or rather pressing it. If the House will allow me to place my arguments in support of my cut motion, and if I am able to satisfy the House, as I believe I will be able to, and get the verdict of the House in favour of the cut motion, the Hon'ble Member for Chalakkudi will not certainly be pressing his case, because his case and something more is gained. Have I the permission of the Chair to continue.

Deputy President : One by one, each motion will have to be put to the vote.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): My motion may be put to vote first and if it is passed, there may be no need to put the motion of Mr. Moothedan for vote. I had a talk with him on that and he has agreed. If my motion is not carried, his motion will have to be put to vote. I am hopeful of carrying the bigger thing.

Now, Sir, it needs no saying that primary education is the first charge on the revenues of any civilised administration. That is an uncontradicted and uncontradictable statement. Then we come to the question what is the agency through which primary education can be achieved. Evidently the answer is there—Government must come in. When it is said that on the revenues of the State the first charge will be that for primary education, it necessarily follows that the State has to provide for it by running Schools of their own. The question is whether the Government of Cochin today or at any time in the future will be in a position to spend all the money that is necessary for bringing to the doors of every house minimum literacy. That is the question. Any man who has gone into statistics of the State and gleaned through the pages of the various Census Reports from about half a century back up till the last one in 1931 will be able to see that only a small percentage of the children of school going age is attending schools. That is again a fact which will not be contradicted. If contradicted, I will place before you your own documents—Census Reports, Administration Reports, and various orders passed by various administrations, different Diwans at different times. Therefore the question comes to this. Because of the fact that Government will not be able to find the necessary funds for running all the necessary schools to advance education and drive away illiteracy if you can have an agency which will cater to the needs of the people or the student population of the State, without the Government being forced to spend all the money for that, you must welcome, you must embrace with both arms. And what has been the policy of the State? I have to take the Hon'ble Members to a period of more than quarter of a century back. I am referring to the days of Sir Albion Banerjee's Diwanship. It was in his days that the Code was revised and a committee that was appointed to look into the working of the new Code has reported about the place that aided schools should have in the State and in passing orders upon that report, you will be pleased to find, Sir, a statement to this effect, that the only way for Cochin with its limited finances at that time, was to encourage the private agency to run private schools for advancement of literacy. To that effect goes the order of the Government. I was searching in the Library to get at that Blue Book, but unfortunately I did not succeed. I am not in a position now to quote off-hand the very sentences which would have advanced my cause a little better. I made enquiries of the Hon'ble Member for Education, but the researches failed there also. But take it from me that this is the gist of that order. But for the very excellent luncheon that we had in the noon, I would have been able to pick up from the books

there before the Secretary—but I had no time to take it from him. Immediately in the wake of that order followed the various encouraging things that the Government of Cochin was pleased to do by the side of the private managers. It will be interesting in this connection for the Hon'ble Members to know that amongst the galaxy of managers of private institutions, I am proud and happy to say that the late abdicated Maharaja of revered memory, whose life like form adorns the walls here, was one of the managers of the aided institutions—perhaps it may be new to you that the manager of the Seshachari institution started for the benefit of the Royal House was the late abdicated Maharaja of Cochin. So the managers of aided institutions are proud to be in the galaxy of great men.

Mr. P. V. Rapheal (*Comptroller of Finance and Accounts*): Was that school receiving any grant?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): Did I ever say that. Don't side-track, please. In your answer you may say that. I will meet every point that you would raise. I know the hollowness of your position. I know the strength of the edifice that I am trying to construct. That is only a side remark.

The period subsequent to these years was one like this. The managers were given building grants, which will not be denied by the department. Managers were given furniture grant, that again will not be denied; managers were given teaching grant, both ordinary and half-salary. In other words, almost all the expenditure for running aided schools was given by the magnanimity of the Government of Cochin. The managers of aided institutions enjoyed in those days these advantages. It must be said that the present state of literacy in the State of which I am not very proud, although people say that we are far up in the ladder, but our Census Reports belie the statement, when compared to other States and Provinces is certainly far ahead of them. But what is the reason? The benevolence of the Government enunciated in that blue book which I mentioned was successfully worked out by no less a person than the then Inspector of Schools who subsequently became the Director of Public Instruction, I am referring to the late Mr. Mathai, to whom primary education in the State owes, if not the whole, 95 per cent of its success. It has to be borne in mind. Again those books will bear out this statement. Sir, as the hon'ble mover of the other cut stated, the cost of running a private institution of normal size, that is each a division, classes 1, 2, 3 and 4, it has been stated again in this House in reply to question put, that the cost of running an aided institution is Rs. 800. That fact again is true, because I in my capacity as manager of a primary school have been getting at the end of the year between Rs. 700 and 800 in the shape of grant and it has been stated again in answer to questions that the cost of running similar institutions by Government is not less than Rs. 2,000. Therefore, my hon'ble friend's statement that the cost of running Sirkar Schools in place of aided school is about 2½ times. That is the position of the aided schools. In other words, where the Sirkar is bound as a civilised Government to spend Rs. 2,000, if you aid a private agency, you can manage the whole business with Rs. 800 and in very many cases with greater efficiency. Great efficiency, I stress, Sir, because a teacher of a primary school and the manager of a primary school, in order to earn even the grant that is allowed, has to work under very rigorous conditions, which conditions do not apply, or are not enforced, in the case of primary Sirkar schools. One instance was pointed out. There is the minimum strength of 30 in an aided school, whereas the strength of a primary school conducted by the Sirkar can be 10. The salary is not affected. I have got the case of the Arandapallam School in hand. The Hon'ble Member for Chittur Ezhavaś just now was telling me that the site of the Arandapallam school may well be handed over to him for running his harvest business. I have visited the school. I have collected statistics of the school and I have got authorised statements which I have forwarded along with my request for granting me permission to introduce the Compulsory Primary Education Bill. I have taken pains and I have stated facts and I am sure I will not be contradicted in my statements. So that is the position. I was on the point, Sir, that the teaching in aided school is often times more efficient than in Sirkar schools.

Deputy President: May I remind you of the time.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): I shall take only 5 minutes. I shall adjust.

Therefore, it is up to the Government if they have the idea of driving away illiteracy from the State, as they should, and advance literacy, as they must do, they have to run the whole show. But instead of their undertaking the whole business at Rs. 2,000 for a normal primary school, spend Rs. 800 upon a normal aided school. For one primary Sirkar school

conducted, you can have 2½ aided schools run by private agency. So, I ask you seriously whether the Government will not be considered simply foolish or more than foolish, if they say that the private agency should not be encouraged and encouraged to the maximum of their capacity. What is the point here that I have raised in my wider cut than the Hon'ble Member's limited cut? I have stated that as soon as conditions of recognition are satisfied, let it be the policy of the Government of Cochin to go to the aid of the manager with the grant. I was referring to the period of Mr. Mathai's Directorship. That was a period when any School Final came across Mr. Mathai, he used to tell him, well, young man, go and start a primary school, apply for recognition and aid, it goes to you". And immediately follows the grant. I started my primary school on the 5th of Edavam 1110 and I got grant for two classes on 5th Dhanu 1111. By the time that I started the school, furniture grant and building grant had been stopped. I never claimed. Then it rolled on and we came to a period when it was announced by the Government that to get grant, you must work the school for one year free. It was fully carried out by the philanthropic managers, because they were working under you. Then came the order, you must work free for two years. The present rule is you must work for three years and again the slogan is grant is not a matter of right, it is only something done by the Government as a matter of grace. I do concede that it is not a matter of right, but only a matter of grace. Where else can we have a proper response except from the Government of Cochin. Therefore, please accept my cut in your own interest and to the advantage of the people of Cochin. In a field where you cannot certainly do the whole business, which is expected of you, encourage private agencies. That is the proposition that I place before you. It may have the support of the House.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): If we go on at this rate, we will not reach any of the other departments. There are very many cuts. I therefore request the Chair may be pleased to enforce with rigour the time limit. Otherwise we will have no chance. We shall go off.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (Vadakkancheri): I am very sorry that this complaint comes at a time when two members are allowed to move their motions together and so the time limit is not exceeded, and also in such an important matter like this.

CUT MOTION No. 63

Aid to Primary class teachers

Mr. C. K. Nayar (Nemmara): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 95,444 for Direction and Inspection by Re. 1 (പ്രാഥമിക പാഠശാലകളിലെ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കു സഹായധനമനുവദിക്കുന്ന ഗവണ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ നയവൈകല്യത്തെ ആക്ഷേപിക്കുവാനുള്ളതാണ് എന്റെ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം).

ഡെപ്യൂട്ടി പ്രസിഡണ്ട്: ഈ കാര്യത്തെന്തൊരങ്ങോ പറയാനുള്ളത്?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. കെ. നായർ: അതെ. ൧൧൧൩-ൽ നിയമിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള വിദയാഭ്യാപകന്മാർക്കും ൧൧൧൩-ൽ നിയമിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള മറ്റു പ്രാഥമികാദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കും സഹായധനമനുവദിക്കാൻ വേണ്ടുന്ന സംഖ്യ ഈ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ കൊള്ളിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുണ്ട്. എത്ര കൊല്ലമായി ഈ രണ്ടു വിഭാഗങ്ങളിലുമുൾപ്പെടുന്നവർ ശമ്പളം കിട്ടാതെ ജോലി നോക്കിത്തുടങ്ങിയിട്ടുണ്ടു കാണാനുള്ള ലക്ഷ്യങ്ങളൊന്നും ഇപ്പോൾ ഇവിടെയില്ല. എങ്കിലും കുറെ കൊല്ലങ്ങളായി പ്രതിഫലമില്ലാതെ പ്രവൃത്തിയെടുത്തുവന്ന ഒരു കൂട്ടം അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുടെ പട്ടിണിക്കു പരിഹാരം കണ്ടുകഴിഞ്ഞെന്നു പറയാറായിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇതു ആശ്വാസജനകതന്നെ. വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ വകുപ്പിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചേടത്തോളം ആശ്വാസജനകങ്ങളായ ചില കാര്യങ്ങൾ, പലപ്പോഴും കാലമതിക്രമിച്ചിട്ടാണെങ്കിലും. ചിലപ്പോഴെങ്കിലും നമ്മുടെ ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടെന്നുള്ളതിന്നു ഇതൊരു മതിയായ തെളിവുതന്നെയാണ്. പക്ഷേ, എത്ര കാര്യവും ചില നിശ്ചിത തരങ്ങളെ അടിസ്ഥാനമാക്കി വേണ്ടെ നടത്താൻ. ഈ ബോധം നമ്മുടെ ഗവണ്മെന്റിനില്ലെന്നു പ്രത്യക്ഷമാക്കുവാൻ ഈ സഹായധനദാനം ഉപകരിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ൧൧൧൩-ൽ നിയമിതരായ ഒരു കൂട്ടം അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാരുൾപ്പടെ അന്നോളം സഹായധനം കിട്ടാതെ കണ്ണി ചിരുന്ന പ്രാഥമിക ക്ലാസ്സുകളിലെ എല്ലാ അദ്ധ്യാപകന്മാർക്കും സഹായധനമനുവദിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നെന്നു പറയുന്ന ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ൧൧൧൩-ലും അതിനുമപ്പുറം നിയമിതരായി സഹായധനമില്ലാതെ വലയുന്ന വിദയാഭ്യാപകന്മാരെമാത്രമേ സഹായധനമനുവദിച്ചുനോക്കിക്കൊള്ളുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ, യാതൊരു നിശ്ചിതനയവുമില്ലാതെ, അദ്ധ്യാപകവൃത്തിയിലേപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ള ചിലർക്കു സഹായധനമനുവദിക്കാൻ നമ്മുടെ ഗവണ്മെന്റ് മുതിർന്നിരിക്കുന്നു. അതിരറ്റു ഒരു നീതിയാണിതെന്നു പറഞ്ഞു തീരൂ.